

September 12, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Detroit Free Press: Michigan Supreme Court a better place, chief justice says

"Michigan's chief justice says working relationships on the state's highest court are the best in his 15 years. Robert Young Jr. says 'very significant' philosophical differences still exist but justices are willing to listen to each other. He says it's not uncommon for a dissenting opinion to become the majority opinion after justices analyze it."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Political Insider: The fighting's over (third article)

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Chief justice: Mich. Supreme Court a better place

[Full story](#)

Note: This Associated Press article also ran in the Lansing State Journal, the Times Herald/Port Huron, and other media outlets.

Detroit Free Press: State courts must provide foreign-language interpreters under new rule

"... These types of cases prompted the Michigan Supreme Court to create a new rule that will require all courts in the state to provide foreign-language interpreters when needed for those who can't comprehend English.... The new requirement comes after the Department of Justice launched a probe in February 2011 amid complaints that courts in Michigan were failing to provide interpreters for people with limited English proficiency. The Justice Department helped the court develop rules and policies for non-English speakers in the courts."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Michigan justices: Cost will be no barrier to translators in courts

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Mich. court: No barriers to translators in courts

[Full story](#)

Note: This Associated Press article also ran in the Mining Journal/Marquette, the Oakland Press, WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing, the Daily Reporter/Greenfield, IN, and other media outlets.

MLive.com: Interpreters to be more available in Michigan courts after state Supreme Court issues order

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: High Court order guarantees interpreters in legal proceedings

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Jack Lessenberry: Good news in the Michigan Supreme Court

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: Access to Justice Highlighted At Michigan Supreme Court

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: The New Michigan Supreme Court Collegiality on Display (Limited English Proficiency webcast)

[Full story](#)

WILX-TV(10)/Lansing: Michigan Top Court Begins Session: Limited English Proficiency

[Full story](#)

Michigan Supreme Court kicks off new session by directing consistent, meaningful access to foreign language interpreters; Justices Young and McCormack announce new rule

[Press release](#)

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The Detroit News: State bar requests disclosure of 'issue' spending donors in judicial races

"The State Bar of Michigan is requesting that Secretary of State Ruth Johnson issue a declaratory ruling that donors funding all 'issue' spending on judicial races must be publicly disclosed. State Bar President Bruce Courtade said Thursday that under Michigan's campaign finance act, Johnson has 60 days to respond to the request. The State Bar wants to have the requirement in effect for 2014 judicial races, he said."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Brian Dickerson: Michigan Bar seeks to drag dark money out of the shadows

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: State Bar calls on Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson to ban 'secret funding' in judicial elections

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: State Bar To SOS: Update Campaign Finance Act Interpretation, Cover Third Party Issue Ads in Judicial Campaigns

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: State employee unions appeal right-to-work ruling

"State employee unions continued fighting Michigan's right-to-work law Wednesday, asking the state Supreme Court to reverse an Aug. 15 ruling that the statute applies to them. State union members contend Michigan's Constitution gives the state Civil Service Commission exclusive authority over them."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: State employee unions request Supreme Court ruling on right-to-work law

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Lansing State Journal, and the Times Herald/Port Huron.

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: State employees take right-to-work challenge to Michigan Supreme Court

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Right-to-work: State employee unions take lawsuit to Michigan Supreme Court

[Full story](#)

WKAR News/East Lansing: State Employee Take Right-To-Work Challenge To Michigan Supreme Court

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Wayne Co. Wayne Co. jail inmate who escaped arraigned on related charges

"A Wayne County jail inmate, whose escape this week led to an intensive manhunt, was arraigned Thursday afternoon. Abraham Pearson, 25, now faces more than 10 additional charges, including assault with intent to murder, unlawful imprisonment and impersonating a peace officer to commit a crime for his escape on Monday.... Pearson was arraigned Thursday at the 36th District Court via video. He has a preliminary hearing scheduled for Sept. 23."

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Appeals court overturns dismissal of Ferndale marijuana dispensary cases

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has reversed an Oakland Circuit Court judge's dismissal of seven individual cases last year involving a Ferndale medical marijuana dispensary that was shut down in 2010 following a police raid.... Attorney Neil Rockind, who represents [Ryan] Richmond, said all the defendants have several weeks to appeal the decision to the State Supreme Court."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Oakland Press: Charges reinstated in Ferndale marijuana dispensary case following Court of Appeals decision

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Daily Tribune and the Macomb Daily.

Detroit Legal News: Judge Blount names presiding judges in court's seven divisions

"To improve operations at the 36th District Court, Chief Judge Nancy M. Blount has named presiding judges for each of the court's seven divisions. The chief judge also announced assignments of the court's judges to each division. Assignments are scheduled to begin Oct. 1."

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Bills to authorize 'mental health courts' to offer treatment, counseling approved by House panel

"A package of bills which would allow courts to send defendants with mental disorders or disabilities into a treatment program were unanimously approved by a Michigan House committee on Thursday. The bills, House Bills 4694, 4695, 4696 and 4697 would establish statutory authority for courts to institute the

programs, which are designed to offer treatment to non-violent offenders who have mental disorders as defined in the state's mental health code, as an outgrowth of the state's drug court program.”

[Full story](#)